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Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Compliance Committee

Forty-fourth meeting
Geneva, 25–28 March 2014
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-fourth meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 25 March 2014*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Relevant developments since the previous meeting of the Committee.
3. Matters arising from previous meetings.

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* Delegates wishing to attend the meeting are requested to complete the registration form which is available from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) website (http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm) and to transmit it to the Convention secretariat no later than two weeks before the meeting by e-mail to the following address: public.participation@unece.org. On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the ECE website, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/meetings/UN_map_Feb.2012.pdf). In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention secretariat by telephone (41 22 917 2682/2650).

* The meeting of the network of the Chairs of compliance/implementation bodies under the ECE Multilateral Environmental Agreements will be held on 24 March 2014.

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4. Submissions by Parties concerning other Parties.
5. Submissions by Parties concerning their own compliance.
6. Referrals by the secretariat.
7. Communications from members of the public.
8. Reporting requirements.
9. Matters arising from the decisions of the Meeting of the Parties, including follow-up on specific cases of non-compliance.
10. Programme of work and calendar of meetings.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Compliance Committee under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) will be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document, taking into account any points raised for consideration by representatives of non-governmental organizations present at the meeting as observers.

2. Relevant developments since the previous meeting of the Committee

The Committee will be invited to share any information on relevant developments since its previous meeting that are not covered under other agenda items.

3. Matters arising from previous meetings

The Committee will be invited to discuss any other matters arising from its previous meetings that are not covered under other agenda items.

4. Submissions by Parties concerning other Parties

In accordance with the relevant procedures, the Committee is expected to consider any submission made by a Party concerning another Party's compliance with its obligations under the Aarhus Convention, as provided for under paragraph 15 of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.PP/2/Add.8).

5. Submissions by Parties concerning their own compliance

In accordance with the relevant procedures, the Committee is expected to consider any submission made by a Party concerning its own compliance with the obligations under the Convention, as provided for under decision I/7, annex, paragraph 16.

6. Referrals by the secretariat

The Committee is expected to consider, in accordance with the relevant procedures, any referrals made by the secretariat concerning possible non-compliance by individual Parties with their obligations under the Convention, as provided for under decision I/7, annex, paragraph 17.

7. Communications from members of the public

In accordance with the relevant procedures, the Committee is mandated to consider communications from the public, as provided for under decision I/7, annex, chapter VI. In this context:

(a) The Committee will confirm the adoption of its findings and recommendations with regard to communications ACCC/C/2011/63 (Austria), ACCC/C/2012/66 (Croatia) and ACCC/C/2012/68 (European Union and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), as set out in documents ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2014/2, ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2014/3 and ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2014/4 respectively;

(b) The Committee is expected to finalize and adopt its findings and, as appropriate, recommendations with regard to communications ACCC/C/2010/51 (Romania) and ACCC/C/2012/77 (United Kingdom) in closed session, taking into account comments received from the Parties concerned and the communicants;

(c) The Committee is expected to continue its deliberations on communications ACCC/C/2012/69 (Romania), ACCC/C/2012/71 (Czech Republic) and ACCC/C/2012/76 (Bulgaria) in closed session with a view to completing its preparation of draft findings and, if appropriate, recommendations;

(d) The Committee is expected to discuss the substance of communications ACCC/C/2013/85 (United Kingdom) and ACCC/C/2013/86 (United Kingdom). In accordance with decision I/7, annex, paragraph 32, the Parties concerned and the communicants are entitled to participate in the discussion on the subject matter of the communication;

(e) The Committee is expected to consider any new information received with regard to communications ACCC/C/2008/32 (European Union), ACCC/C/2010/55 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2013/81 (Sweden), ACCC/C/2013/88 (Kazakhstan), ACCC/C/2013/89 (Slovakia), ACCC/C/2013/90 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2013/91 (United Kingdom), ACCC/C/2013/92 (Germany), ACCC/C/2013/93 (Norway), ACCC/C/2013/94 (Denmark) and ACCC/C/2013/96 (European Union);

(f) The Committee will discuss any new communications received sufficiently in advance of the meeting, in particular with respect to their admissibility and any issues that may need to be raised with the Party concerned or the communicant.

8. Reporting requirements

In the light of its mandate under decision I/7, annex, paragraph 35, the Committee is expected to complete the report on its activities and its recommendations, as it considers appropriate, for submission to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session.

9. Matters arising from the decisions of the Meeting of the Parties, including follow-up on specific cases of non-compliance

The Committee will be invited to discuss any progress with regard to implementation of decisions IV/9 and IV/9a–i of the Meeting of the Parties.

10. Programme of work and calendar of meetings

The Committee is expected to discuss and decide upon its programme of work and to identify dates for its future meetings.

11. Other business

At present the secretariat has no other business to suggest under this agenda item.

12. Adoption of the report

The Committee will be invited to adopt the report of the meeting.